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PLEASE RETURN

DISASTER DECLARATIONS

Disasters and emergencies are everywhere in Montana. The governor signed two executive orders declaring emergencies and one declaring a disaster in the last month.

Department of State Lands fire fighters requested National Guard help in fighting a fire in the Beartooth Complex north of Helena. The Beartooth Fire started on November 13 in a hunting camp. Winds, cold nighttime temperatures and a lack of available fire fighters made this fire difficult to contain.

The next declaration was in response to localized snow and blizzard conditions which began on the Blackfeet Reservation November 23. Pondera and Glacier County, Bureau of Indian Affairs and Blackfeet Tribal road crews were overwhelmed in their efforts to keep even the main roads open in the face of drifting snow. An emergency declaration allowed additional Montana Department of Highways crews and equipment to be dispatched to the problem areas.

Fires in central Montana led to a disaster declaration for Judith Basin County. Winds of over 100 miles per hour on November 23 pushed the Turkey Fire out of the Little Belt Mountains toward Stanford. The fires caused major personal losses to many Stanford area families. County crews augmented by U.S. Forest Service crews fought the fires. The cause of the fires still is in question.

Congratulations to Bill Bishop for the success of all his hard work during these incidents.

EXERCISES

The FY90 final exercise data report shows a breakdown of the exercises reported by local jurisdictions. 95.16 Exercise Report Forms submitted by local coordinators showed an emphasis on full-scale exercises and technological hazard scenarios. The total participants involved in the 81 reported exercises was 4,462.

Type of Exercise

Actual Occurrence	2
Tabletop	12
Functional	27
Full Scale	40
total	81

Natural Hazards	19
Technological Hazards	61
National Security	1
total	81

The first quarter Exercise Reports Forms for FY91 are due in to the District Representatives by the first of January. Let's beat last year's numbers!

FARM SAFETY WORKSHOP TRAINS EMERGENCY STAFF

Emergency Medical Services, Region 2A, sponsored a farm safety workshop on October 6-7 in Choteau and Fairfield.

The workshop started October 6 in Choteau. Speakers were Chris Christensen, Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Division training officer; Ray Blehm, State Fire Marshal; Steve Rose, Teton County Rural Fire chief; Gary Haigh, an Emergency Medical Technician from Billings; and Earl Lee, Montana Power Company Safety Director. On Sunday, in Fairfield, workshop speakers were Roy Linn, Civil Engineering Safety Specialist from Montana State University; Lowell Darrington, Agronomist for Greenfield Farmers Oil Co.; Steve Diedrich, Fairfield Fire chief and the North Central Mercy Flight crew.

The presentations provided information concerning hazardous materials spills; new training guidelines; safe rescue involving explosives; electrical injuries; safety procedures for using equipment; Emergency Medical Services safety guidelines and information. Hands-on demonstrations took place in the afternoon and provided insight into farm accident prevention.

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

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HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TRAINING

The State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) was notified that Montana will receive hazardous materials training funds for federal fiscal year 1991. The Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA), Title III, provided funding for training related to hazardous materials. The SERC Training Committee has proposed a training plan for fiscal year 1991.

The focus for 1991 training will be the responsibility of emergency response employers to provide hazardous materials training to their employees. Train-The-Trainer courses for Level 1 response will also be offered. Information about course content, dates and locations will be advertised statewide through various professional newsletters.

LEPC UPDATES

Elected officials serve as members of many Local Emergency Planning Committees. Please notify State Emergency Response Commission of any membership or chairperson changes due to elections or new appointments. Contact Disaster and Emergency Services Division, Attn: SERC, P.O. Box 4789, Helena, MT 59604 with names, addresses and phone numbers of your county LEPC members.

EMERGENCY KITS FOR SALE!

The Five Rivers Chapter of the American Red Cross, in Bozeman has emergency kits available. Each kit contains 102 items useful during disasters. Included are:

* A solar AM/FM radio
* A solar-powered flashlight
* A 62-piece first aid kit
* A Red Cross Emergency Survival Handbook
* A 17-function army knife
* A folding shovel/saw
* Water packets with 5-year shelf life
* Heavy duty work gloves
* Four hooded ponchos
* Four space blankets
* Two cyalume light sticks
* Four 15-hour candles
* Windproof, waterproof hurricane matches
* Safety matches
* A stainless steel mirror
* 50 feet of nylon cord

and many other useful items.

For more information call the Five Rivers Red Cross Chapter at 587-4611.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS DIGEST

The Emergency Preparedness Digest is a quarterly magazine published by Emergency Preparedness Canada. It is an excellent source of emergency management information, printed in both English and French, and currently available free of charge. To become a subscriber, a request should be sent to Preparedness Canada, Ottawa, Canada K1A OW6.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE UPDATES

Reimbursement of Travel

All participants selected for resident training at the Emergency Management Institute will be fully reimbursed in FY91. Participants should **not** purchase airline tickets until they have received notification of acceptance into a specific course. A photocopy of the airline ticket will be requested prior to reimbursement. The only out-of-pocket expense for participants is a $15.60 daily charge for meals and incidentals.

EMI Transportation Schedule for FY91

As of October 1, 1990, buses will no longer run from Baltimore/Washington International Airport (BWI) to EMI. Buses will depart from Washington National and Dulles airports after 6:00 p.m. on Sunday evenings to accommodate those participants who have difficulty arriving by 5:00 p.m.

Students attending courses or activities that do not start on Monday will have a bus available from Washington National Airport to EMI at 7:00 p.m. the

day before the course begins. Students attending courses that do not end on Friday, will leave EMI by bus for Washington National Airport at 1:00 p.m. This bus will arrive at Washington National at 2:30 p.m. EMI does not provide other transportation for these activities. If you need more information about travel to EMI, call the Transportation Office at (301) 447-1113 for assistance.

SOFTWARE APPLICATION COMPETITION

The State and Local Emergency Management Data Users Group 1991 Software Application Competition is dedicated to recognizing outstanding accomplishments of those who have either developed or applied emergency management-related software. This software can be from the public domain or any commercial vendor. Selection of three finalists will be based on documentation, utility, and ease of use and applicability to emergency management.

The winner will receive a trip to North Carolina for the 6th Annual SALEMDUG Conference. Interested parties should send a letter to: Mike Austin, Arizona Division of Emergency Services, 5636 East McDowell Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85008, or call him at (602) 231-6227.

RELEASE OF FEMA INFORMATION

FEMA Region 8, Security Officer, Leon Houston, notified Montana DES that FEMA documents, publications or information may not be released to any foreign country (including Canada) without the express written consent of FEMA Headquarters.

COMINGS AND GOINGS

Julius Becton, has been replaced as director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency by **Wallace E. Stickney.** Stickney, 56, a registered engineer, began his career as a college instructor in physics and engineering. He has been a town engineer and has worked for EPA and the Department of Interior.

We are all pleased that Marian Olson, Ph.D., has been re-appointed as Regional Director for FEMA Region 8, in Denver.

Les Carter, our most personable short timer, has returned to greener pastures. Les was hired as a Radiological Technician and worked with Jim Brown. Rumor has it that after calibrating his one millionth dosimeter, Les cracked and went running back to Lakeside to stay fulltime with his lovely wife, Gloria. We will miss his smiling face. (See what happens when you leave, Les? You can't defend yourself!)

Deeda Richard who ran the National Flood Insurance Program has resigned. Karl Christians is the new program person.

Pat Hansen, Sweet Grass County Deputy DES Co-ordinator, is currently on sabbatical in South America. Daryl Hodges is temporarily filling in for Pat.

Ray Doggett, Broadwater County DES coordinator, and his new bride, Vikki, are back from their honeymoon. They were married October 20, 1990, in a home ceremony.

Bob Busenbark, Petroleum County DES, was activated with his Army Reserve Unit to support Operation Desert Shield. The last we heard he was still at Fort Carson, CO. We will print his address as soon as we get it.

Chuck Allen, Deputy DES Coordinator in Petroleum County, is the acting DES coordinator.

Fallon County has a new coordinator. Charles "Mike" Madler is the new face in District 4. Welcome to DES!

Montana DES has a new temporary hire. William K. "Bill" Good, Jr. is filling in as Acting Administrator for the division.

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DISASTER AND EMERGENCY SERVICES
DIVISION NEWSLETTER
406-444-6911

STAN STEPHENS
GOVERNOR

GARY C. BLAIR
ADJUTANT GENERAL

WILLIAM K. GOOD, JR.
ACTING ADMINISTRATOR

The articles in this newsletter do not constitute official policy.

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